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December 17, 1998

Federal Election Commission Attn: Alva Smith 999 "E" Street NW Washington, D.C. 20463

**RE: MUR 4836** 

Dear Ms. Smith:

Please accept this correspondence as the Response on behalf of Kathy Brouilette as it relates to a Complaint filed with the Commission by the Nebraska State Democratic Party in October of this year.

It has been alleged in the Complaint that my client committed some sort of wrongdoing as a result of donating to the Senate Campaign of Nebraska Attorney General Don Stenberg in the summer of 1995. My client vehemently denies any inappropriate activity on her part in supporting Mr. Stenberg in his quest for the United States Senate. She does not deny that she contributed \$1000.00 to Mr. Stenberg's effort for office. However, Ms. Brouilette is an adult woman who wrote a check out of her own checking account to provide to the campaign. This obviously is clearly within her right to do so.

The Complaint lodged by the State Democratic Party additionally alleges that Mr. Stenberg may have had a conflict of interest with Thousand Adventures for not pursuing what the Democratic Party calls "an obvious case of fraud". Further, they go on to complain that Thousand Adventures was in effect buying off Mr. Stenberg and, in turn, buying their own immunity from a lawsuit. It must be pointed out that Ms. Brouilette did not have any ownership interest in Thousand Adventures. She was merely an employee of this family-owned business. The Vopnford family owned and operated Thousand Adventures, with Ms. Brouilette working in the office as a paid employee. She exercised no control or decision making in the day-to-day operations of the business, nor did she control the record keeping in regard to the financial transactions of the business.

It appears from the attachments to the Complaint, that the crux of the Complaint is the fact that Mr. Stenberg took no action on what the Democratic Party believes was fraudulent business practices on the part of Thousand Adventures. These complaints go directly to the Vopnford family

and again have absolutely nothing to do with Ms. Brouilette.

My client based upon all the facts and circumstances of this Complaint should not be subjected to further investigation in this matter. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that no action should be taken in this Complaint against Kathy Brouilette, and further, that this Complaint against Ms. Brouilette does not warrant the use of Commission resources and should be dismissed.

Your consideration in this matter is appreciated. If I can provide any additional information, or if you require any further materials please contact me. I look forward to a quick disposition to this Complaint as it relates to my client.

Thank you for your attention to, and cooperation in, this matter.

Sincerely,

Donald L. Schense